

§ 657i. Coordination of disaster assistance programs with FEMA

(a) Coordination required

The Administrator shall ensure that the disaster assistance programs of the Administration are coordinated, to the maximum extent practicable, with the disaster assistance programs of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(b) Regulations required

The Administrator, in consultation with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall establish regulations to ensure that each application for disaster assistance is submitted as quickly as practicable to the Administration or directed to the appropriate agency under the circumstances.

(c) Completion; revision

The initial regulations shall be completed not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of the Small Business Disaster Response and Loan Improvements Act of 2008. Thereafter, the regulations shall be revised on an annual basis.

(d) Report

The Administrator shall include a report on the regulations whenever the Administration submits the report required by section 657o of this title.

(Pub. L. 85-536, §2[37], as added Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12062(2), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1407, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12062(2), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2169.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of the enactment of the Small Business Disaster Response and Loan Improvements Act of 2008, referred to in subsec. (c), is the date of enactment of subtitle B (§§12051-12091) of title XII of Pub. L. 110-246, which was approved June 18, 2008.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2[37] of Pub. L. 85-536 was renumbered section 2[49] and is set out as a note under section 631 of this title.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Enactment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

§ 657j. Information tracking and follow-up system for disaster assistance

(a) System required

The Administrator shall develop, implement, or maintain a centralized information system to track communications between personnel of the Administration and applicants for disaster assistance. The system shall ensure that whenever

an applicant for disaster assistance communicates with such personnel on a matter relating to the application, the following information is recorded:

- (1) The method of communication.
- (2) The date of communication.
- (3) The identity of the personnel.
- (4) A summary of the subject matter of the communication.

(b) Follow-up required

The Administrator shall ensure that an applicant for disaster assistance receives, by telephone, mail, or electronic mail, follow-up communications from the Administration at all critical stages of the application process, including the following:

- (1) When the Administration determines that additional information or documentation is required to process the application.
- (2) When the Administration determines whether to approve or deny the loan.
- (3) When the primary contact person managing the loan application has changed.

(c) Report on web portal for disaster loan application status

(1) In general

Not later than 90 days after November 25, 2015, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report relating to the creation of a web portal to the¹ track the status of applications for disaster assistance under section 636(b) of this title.

(2) Contents

The report under paragraph (1) shall include—

- (A) information on the progress of the Administration in implementing the information system under subsection (a);
- (B) recommendations from the Administration relating to the creation of a web portal for applicants to check the status of an application for disaster assistance under section 636(b) of this title, including a review of best practices and web portal models from the private sector;
- (C) information on any related costs or staffing needed to implement such a web portal;
- (D) information on whether such a web portal can maintain high standards for data privacy and data security;
- (E) information on whether such a web portal will minimize redundancy among Administration disaster programs, improve management of the number of inquiries made by disaster applicants to employees located in the area affected by the disaster and to call centers, and reduce paperwork burdens on disaster victims; and
- (F) such additional information as is determined necessary by the Administrator.

(Pub. L. 85-536, §2[38], as added Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12067, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1410, and

¹ So in original. The word “the” probably should not appear.

Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12067, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2172; Pub. L. 114-88, div. B, title III, §2303, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 696.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2015—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 114-88 added subsec. (c).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Enactment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

§ 657k. Disaster processing redundancy

(a) In general

The Administrator shall ensure that the Administration has in place a facility for disaster loan processing that, whenever the Administration's primary facility for disaster loan processing becomes unavailable, is able to take over all disaster loan processing from that primary facility within 2 days.

(b) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(Pub. L. 85-536, §2[39], as added Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12069, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1411, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12069, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2173.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Enactment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

§ 657l. Comprehensive disaster response plan

(a) Plan required

The Administrator shall develop, implement, or maintain a comprehensive written disaster response plan. The plan shall include the following:

(1) For each region of the Administration, a description of the disasters most likely to occur in that region.

(2) For each disaster described under paragraph (1)—

(A) an assessment of the disaster;

(B) an assessment of the demand for Administration assistance most likely to occur in response to the disaster;

(C) an assessment of the needs of the Administration, with respect to such resources as information technology, telecommunications, human resources, and office space, to meet the demand referred to in subparagraph (B); and

(D) guidelines pursuant to which the Administration will coordinate with other Federal agencies and with State and local authorities to best respond to the demand referred to in subparagraph (B) and to best use the resources referred to in that subparagraph.

(b) Completion; revision

The first plan required by subsection (a) shall be completed not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section. Thereafter, the Administrator shall update the plan on an annual basis and following any major disaster relating to which the Administrator declares eligibility for additional disaster assistance under section 636(b)(9) of this title.

(c) Knowledge required

The Administrator shall carry out subsections (a) and (b) through an individual with substantial knowledge in the field of disaster readiness and emergency response.

(d) Report

The Administrator shall include a report on the plan whenever the Administration submits the report required by section 657o of this title.

(Pub. L. 85-536, §2[40], as added Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12075, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1414, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12075, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2176.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of the enactment of this section, referred to in subsec. (b), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-246, which was approved June 18, 2008.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Enactment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

DISASTER PLAN IMPROVEMENTS

Pub. L. 114-88, div. A, title I, §1105, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 688, provided that: "The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall revise the comprehensive written disaster response plan required in section 40 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657l), or any successor thereto, to incorporate the Administration's response to a situation in which an extreme volume of applications are received during the period of time immediately after a disaster, which shall include a plan to ensure that sufficient human and technological resources are made available and a plan to prevent delays in loan processing."